



Universally Accessible Treehouse Mt. Airy Forest - Cincinnati



Mt. Airy Forest, 5083 Colerain Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45223

Michael Flannery/9 On Your Kid's Side and WCPO launched the Universally Accessible Treehouse initiative in Cincinnati, embracing a goal to raise support to build the first such treehouse in the region. They enlisted **Forever Young Treehouses** designers and visionaries for the project. **Cincinnati Parks** created the perfect setting for the treehouse within the 1,470 acres of Mt. Airy Forest. **Rotary Club of Cincinnati** enthusiastically took on the Treehouse project in a generous community-wide fundraising campaign that has brought it to reality.



Universally Accessible Treehouse Mt. Airy Forest, Cincinnati Designed and Built, Fall 2006

The only such public treehouse in the Tri-State, this universally accessible treehouse has a series of ramps that provides access to all, including children with special needs who are routinely confronted with barriers to fun and play in their daily lives. Built in lush Mt. Airy Forest, the treehouse is a testament to community spirit, built by volunteer labor and donations.

Treehouse facts:

Total Square Footage (including ramp and landings): *1,500 square feet*

Height of Treehouse: *14 feet*

Width of Ramp: *6 feet*

Wood used to build treehouse: *Black locust, sugar maple, black maple, ipê, cedar shakes*

Trees Connected to Structure: *12 trees*

Expected Life of Treehouse: *50+ years*

Estimated Volunteer Hours to Build: *4,000 hours*

Designers: *Forever Young Treehouses* (Burlington, Vermont)

Forever Young Treehouses are not only ADA-compliant, but also safe, unique in character and craftsmanship, and use building methods that protect the health of the trees.

Project cost: *\$500,000*

The generosity of many individuals and groups has made the Treehouse a reality, including the following:

Treehouse In-Kind Donors

American Scaffolding Inc.
Baker Concrete Construction
Cincinnati Bengals NFL/United Way Hometown Huddle
Cort Furniture
Drees Homes
Home Depot
Homebuilders Association of Greater Cincinnati

Messer Construction Co. (with Hilltop Basic Resources,
Gerdau Ameristeel, CHC Fabricating Corporation
and Bobcat)
Marvin Lewis Community Fund
Mueller Roofing Co.
Scott Crawford

Treehouse Financial Donors

9 On your Kid's Side Fund
Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation
Family & Friends of Bonnie "Gogi" Collins
Family & Friends of Eunice Kemper
Federated Department Stores
Huntington Bank
Kroger Company
Maxwell C. Weaver Foundation
Ohio Attorney General's Office Settlement Fund
Ronald McDonald House Charities

Rotary Foundation of Cincinnati
Scripps Howard Foundation
Stillson Foundation (Fifth Third Bank, Agent)
The Dornette Foundation
The Jack J. Smith Jr. Charitable Trust
The Procter & Gamble Fund
The Spaulding Foundation
The Thomas J. Emery Memorial
US Bank

Treehouse Civic Volunteers

Best Buy
Cincinnati Bengals
Duke Energy
Fifth Third Bank
General Electric
Give Back Cincinnati
Home Depot

Landscape Associates
Marvinettes
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Rotary Club of Cincinnati
United Way
Vineyard Community Church

Mt. Airy Forest, with 1,470 acres, is the largest park in the Cincinnati Parks system. Located 10 minutes from downtown Cincinnati, Mt. Airy Forest has 900 acres reforested in hardwoods and evergreens, 269 acres in native woodland, and 170 acres of open meadow. Its 120-acre arboretum has more than 5,000 plants representing 1,600 species and varieties of deciduous trees, evergreens and shrubs. The park also offers 14 miles of hiking trails, 16 miles of bridle trails, 23 picnic areas, and playgrounds including a handicapped-accessible playground.